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**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**  
**ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, ALASKA**

*ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM*

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON INTERIM  
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN**

**FINAL**

**JANUARY 2010**

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## **PURPOSE OF THE INTERIM COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN**

The installations of Elmendorf Air Force Base (AFB), Alaska, and the Army's Fort Richardson, Alaska, will combine in 2010 to form Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson or JBER (pronounced "J-bear"), as a result of 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions.

While military missions of the Air Force and Army units will remain separate, Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson agencies are working together to consolidate service-specific programs performing installation support functions for the Air Force and Army. Among these is the area of environmental services.

The joining of the installations to become JBER is intended to be transparent to the installation's Alaska neighbors. However, the merging of the environmental programs creates the need to merge planning documents.

This interim plan fulfills a requirement of the JBER implementation plan by merging and incorporating updates to the 2004 Elmendorf Air Force Base Community Relations Plan and the 2004 Fort Richardson Areawide Community Relations Plan. This plan also provides the framework for an updated plan based on a community survey currently scheduled to begin in 2011 after the merger of Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson is complete.

The purpose of the plan is to outline the actions joint base staff will take to inform and involve adjacent communities and interested parties concerning the environmental restoration programs at JBER during the transition period of the new joint base. The plan includes the cooperative efforts of Air Force, Army, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representatives.

The restoration activities at JBER will comply with state and federal laws, which encourage public input into the development of proposed cleanup activities. This plan includes an introduction to the community involvement program and environmental restoration regulatory processes, background on the history of the installation, summary of restoration activities, profile of the community and past community concerns, and an interim plan for community involvement activities until revision of the program after new data are collected with the 2011 survey.

## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAC	Alaska Administrative Code
ADEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
AEC	Army Environmental Command
AFB	Air Force Base
AOC	Area of Concern
ARAR	Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirement
ARLIS	Alaska Resources Library and Information Services
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CEB	Community Environmental Board
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
DDD	Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
DERA	Defense Environmental Restoration Account (see ERA)
DOD	Department of Defense
DRMO	Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ERA	Environmental Restoration Account (formerly Defense Environmental Restoration Account)
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
FFA	Federal Facilities Agreement
FFCA	Federal Facilities Compliance Act
FOC	Full Operational Capability
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
HVE	High-Vacuum Extraction
IRA	Interim Remedial Action
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
JBER	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
LTM	Long-Term Monitoring
MMRP	Military Munitions Response Program

MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
NFA	No Further Action
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
NPL	National Priorities List
OU	Operable Unit
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OSHA	U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PAH	Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbon
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
POL	Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants
PSE	Preliminary Source Evaluation
RA	Remedial Action
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RA-O	Remedial Action-Operation
RC	Response Complete
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RD	Remedial Design
RI	Remedial Investigation
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
RIP	Remedy in Place
ROD	Record of Decision
RPM	Remedial Project Manager
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986
SERA	State-Elmendorf Environmental Restoration Agreement
SVE	Soil Vapor Extraction
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
TAPP	Technical Assistance for Public Participation
TPA	Two-Party Agreement
TRC	Technical Review Committee
UAA	University of Alaska Anchorage
USARAK	U.S. Army, Alaska
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM AND REGULATORY PROCESSES**

This Community Involvement Plan was prepared for known and suspected contaminated sites identified under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) at JBER. Because environmental restoration programs for the joint base began when Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson were separate installations, many actions are listed separately.

In August 1990, Elmendorf AFB was placed on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL), and Fort Richardson was added to the list in June 1994. Both installations had evidence of releases of hazardous substances to the soil and groundwater. CERCLA requires preparation of a Community Involvement Plan for each NPL site.

### **1.1 Community Involvement Program Overview**

The EPA developed the CERCLA Community Involvement Program to ensure the opportunity for public involvement in all environmental cleanup actions. The EPA and ADEC are also involved with the Community Involvement Program as oversight agencies to ensure that the public's concerns are addressed.

The first step in the Community Involvement Program is the development of the Community Involvement Plan, formerly known as the Community Relations Plan.

The first Elmendorf AFB Community Relations Plan was published in January 1992; the original Fort Richardson Areawide Community Relations Plan was published in April 1995. This Community Involvement Plan combines and revises the 2004 versions of these documents. The plan also provides the framework for a joint base plan that will incorporate the results of a new community survey currently planned for 2011.

The plan outlines the strategy for community involvement activities to inform and include residents of the installation and adjacent communities regarding contamination and cleanup at JBER, in consultation with the EPA and ADEC. The plan also provides background information on the installation, environmental restoration actions, community involvement and community concerns used to develop the plan. Both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson have sought input from local communities and provided the public with opportunities to take part in all site-related decisions at the installations.

This plan is organized into four sections:

- Section 1 contains an introduction and general discussion of CERCLA and regulatory processes,
- Section 2 provides information about the history of Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson and a description of JBER,
- Section 3 describes the local community and their previous concerns related to environmental restoration at Elmendorf AFB or Fort Richardson, and plans for a new community survey, and
- Section 4 describes the community involvement activities which make up the community involvement program until revision of the plan after the next community survey.

## **1.2 The CERCLA Process**

Congress enacted CERCLA, also known as Superfund, in 1980. CERCLA established a nationwide process to clean up hazardous waste disposal and spill sites and to determine which sites posed the greatest risk to public health and the environment. In 1986, Congress passed the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), which amended and reauthorized CERCLA.

The NPL is EPA's prioritized list of sites that require action under CERCLA. EPA prioritized sites according to their Hazard Ranking System, a scoring system that evaluates potential risks to public health and the environment from releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances. The score is based on the actual or potential release of hazardous substances from a site through air, soil, surface water, or groundwater. This score is the main factor used to include a site on the NPL. Once a site is included on the NPL, it becomes eligible for investigation and cleanup under CERCLA. Because Fort Richardson, Elmendorf AFB and now JBER are Department of Defense (DOD) sites, all investigations and restoration activities are conducted under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP).

This program, under the direction of DOD, has created two main program categories to effectively address hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, and military munitions at thousands of diverse sites. The Installation Restoration Program (IRP) and the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) address cleanup activities at DOD installations and formerly used defense sites (FUDS).

The IRP -- the more mature of the two programs -- addresses the releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants from past commonly accepted practices on DOD installations. A program for more than 20 years, the IRP is operated based on well-established procedures to identify contamination, assess risk, and then take action.

The MMRP was created in fiscal year 2001 to enhance the response activities of the DERP. The MMRP is focused on environmental and safety hazards from unexploded ordnances, waste military munitions, and chemical residue of munitions remaining from past operations at other than operational ranges at active and BRAC installations, and FUDS.

Together, these two program categories address DOD's cleanup requirements within a framework allowing for allocation of resources, planning, and oversight to reduce risk to human health and the environment through environmental restoration activities.

Specific goals of the DERP include the following:

- Identification, investigation, and cleanup of contamination from hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants;
- Correction of other environmental damage that may create an imminent and substantial threat to public health or welfare or to the environment; and
- Demolition and removal of unsafe buildings and structures, including buildings and structures at sites formerly used by DOD or under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense.

Within the restoration program and CERCLA, both Fort Richardson and Elmendorf AFB investigated their respective sites to determine appropriate actions. After the creation of JBER, the Air Force, as the supporting component, will be responsible for the management and disposition of Fort Richardson's environmental permits, orders and compliance agreements as outlined in the JBER Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The MOA also states the transfer of the supported component ERP management responsibilities to the supporting component will occur Jan. 31, 2010.

The initial step in the CERCLA process was to conduct a Preliminary Source Evaluation (PSE) to determine the site's location, past operations, and whether further study was needed. This could include records reviews, site visits or limited field data collection. Based on results and information collected during the evaluation, the installation submitted a PSE report containing the findings of the investigation to ADEC and EPA for review and comment. The Army, Air Force, ADEC and EPA cooperatively decided if the findings warranted additional investigation of the potential sources or if no further action (NFA) was necessary for their respective sites. A decision of NFA at a potential source required mutual consent by project managers from the installation, ADEC, and EPA, and all parties then signed a No Further Action Decision Document. If further action was warranted, efforts at the source area continued with some or all of the steps outlined below:

1. Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS): The RI/FS focused on determining the type and extent of contamination at the site and identifying possible cleanup alternatives. A Risk Assessment, which identified potential environmental and human health risks related to contamination detected on site, was prepared during the RI/FS. If a situation is identified at any time during the process that poses an immediate danger to human health or the environment, a removal action is conducted. A removal action is an action taken over the short term to address a release of hazardous substances.

The FS is conducted at the same time as the RI to the extent possible. The purpose of the FS is to develop and analyze various cleanup alternatives and to recommend appropriate actions.

Upon completion of the FS, a cost-effective preferred alternative is identified and presented to the public in a proposed plan. The proposed plan contains a discussion of the preferred alternative and other alternatives considered. A public comment period and a public meeting are provided for the public to review and comment on the proposed plan.

2. Engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) – This is a CERCLA process used at Elmendorf AFB to achieve cleanup of the sites that fall into what the EPA classifies as non-time critical removals. These require cleanup but not as urgently as sites that pose a more immediate threat to the public. This process involves a modified RI/FS, an analysis to determine possible remedies, a public comment period, selection of a remedy or remedies and removal action. Like other CERCLA actions, it may also result in institutional controls to limit future use of the site.
3. Treatability Studies - If existing information is insufficient to adequately evaluate alternatives, laboratory tests may be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of a particular remedial technology for treating specific contaminants found at the facility. In some situations, a study may be necessary to develop a more accurate cost estimate for particular treatment technologies.
4. Record of Decision (ROD) - A ROD is prepared using information obtained during the public comment period and the RI/FS to select a remedial action alternative. The ROD includes all facts, analyses of facts, comparison of alternatives, and site-specific policy determinations considered during the selection process. Part of the ROD contains a responsiveness summary. This section summarizes significant public comments and new relevant information that was obtained during the preceding public comment period. The base provides a response to each issue. An action memorandum serves the same purpose for an EE/CA.

5. Remedial Design (RD): This activity, which followed the ROD, involved developing the engineering specifications for the actual remediation or cleanup.
6. Remedial Action (RA): This is the actual construction or implementation phase that followed the design of the selected cleanup alternative.
7. Remedy in Place (RIP): This DOD term is roughly equivalent to EPA's "construction complete" milestone. Generally, this is when physical construction of all cleanup systems for a particular site is complete, all immediate threats have been addressed and all long-term threats are under control.
8. Operation and Maintenance (O&M): This is the operation and maintenance of remedial systems placed on site during Remedial Action construction.
9. Long-Term Monitoring (LTM): This is the monitoring of contaminated media, such as groundwater, to ensure that remedial systems are operating effectively. The goal of LTM is to show a decrease in contaminant levels over time. Depending on the remedial system and the contaminants of concern, monitoring is conducted quarterly, biannually, or annually.
10. Response Complete (RC): This is a status determination that the restoration actions are complete and the site is not a threat to the public health or the environment. After regulatory concurrence to terminate long-term response actions at a site has been obtained, the restoration program can work toward site closeout.
11. Site Closeout (SC): This stage is reached when no further response actions under the restoration program are appropriate or anticipated and the regulatory agencies concur. Upon completion of the final five-year review, the program officials and regulatory agencies will work to agree that response actions can be terminated and the individual site closed out. At NPL sites, this step includes following proper procedures for deletion from the NPL.

The time needed to complete each of these steps is different for each site. For example, an RI/FS may take two years to complete; design of a long-term cleanup solution may require 12 to 18 months; implementation of the final long-term cleanup may require several years; and treatment of contaminated groundwater may take decades. However, if a site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment at any time during the remedial process, the Air Force, Army or EPA can intervene with an emergency response action or removal action.

To monitor the process, five years following the signature of the installation's first ROD, a Five-Year Review was required. The Five-Year Review is an evaluation of activities to ensure that remedies selected in the RODs continue to be protective of human health and the environment. Five-Year Reviews for Elmendorf AFB sites were completed in 1998, 2003 and 2008. Five-Year Reviews for Fort Richardson sites were completed in 2003 and 2008. Subsequent reviews are scheduled every five years as long as hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remaining at the site are above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. Copies of review documents are located in the Information Repositories.

All original documents including correspondence, public comments, the ROD, technical reports upon which the agencies base their remedial action selection make up the Administrative Record. Those documents from the Administrative Record that are available to the public are maintained in Information Repositories.

### **1.3 Federal Facility Agreements**

A Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) is an agreement signed by respective agencies to manage site cleanup under CERCLA. The Air Force, EPA Region 10, and ADEC signed an FFA for Elmendorf AFB in November 1991. The Army, EPA Region 10 and ADEC signed an FFA for Fort Richardson in December 1994. The FFA ensures that environmental impacts associated with past practices at each installation are investigated and appropriate actions are completed to protect human health and the environment. This agreement sets deadlines, objectives, responsibilities, and procedural framework for cleanup.

### **1.4 Two-Party Agreements**

Source areas where petroleum contamination was the only contaminant are excluded from the CERCLA process and cleaned up based on state requirements. Sites in this category were referred to as a Two-Party Agreement between the Army and the State of Alaska or the Air Force and the State of Alaska.

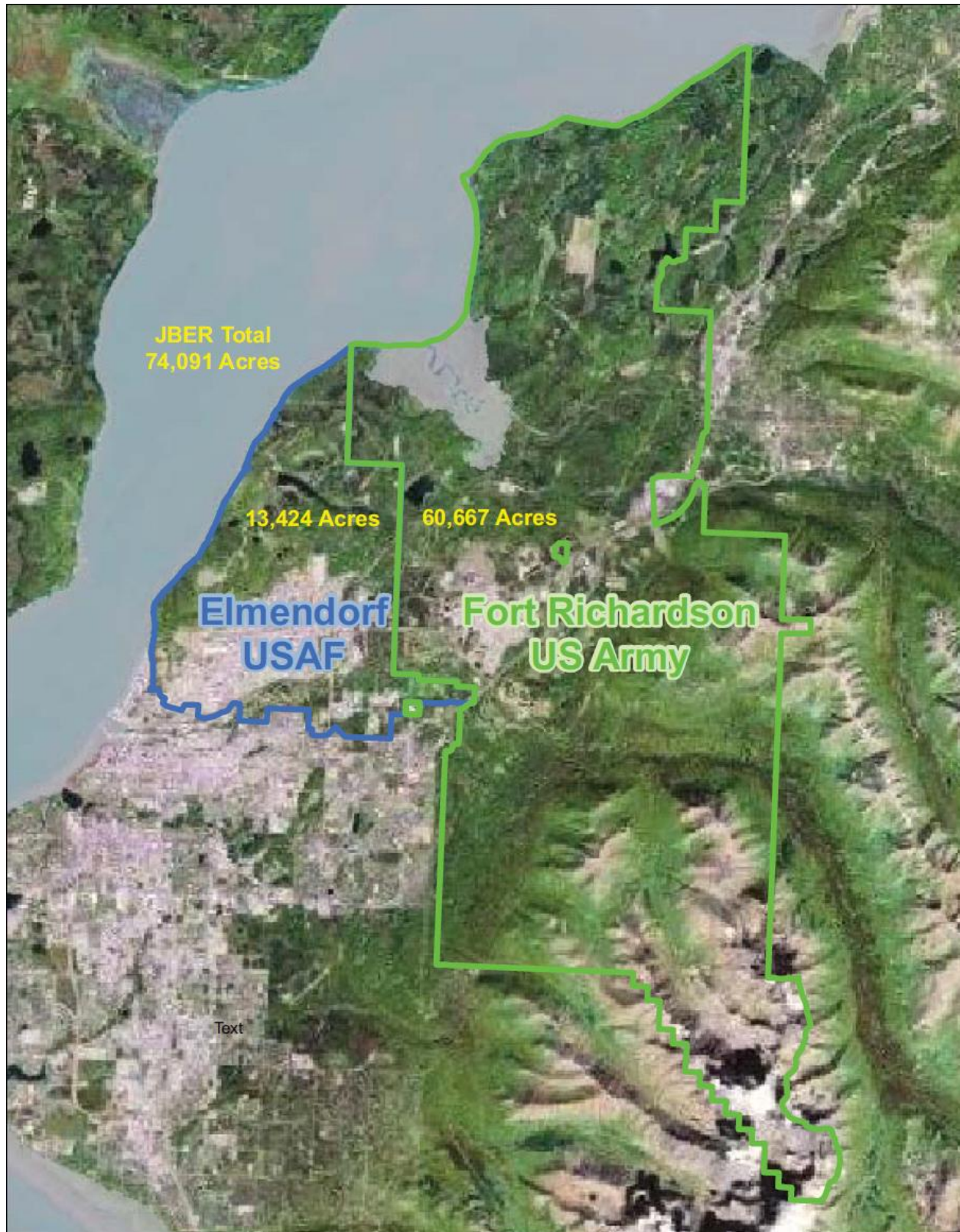
Fort Richardson actually had two separate agreements; one focused on areas on the installation contaminated with petroleum from underground storage tanks (UST) and the other focused on petroleum source areas not associated with USTs.

The Army and ADEC signed the State-Fort Richardson Underground Storage Tank Compliance Agreement for USTs (Two-Party Agreement) in 1993. The agreement defines the process by which the Army agrees to investigate and remediate petroleum-contaminated areas. These areas are associated with USTs that have leaked, or with surface spills of petroleum products, such as lubricating oils or grease, heating fuels, and motor fuels.

The State-Fort Richardson Environmental Restoration Agreement (Two-Party Agreement) for Non-UST source areas was signed in November 1994 for petroleum-contaminated source areas not associated with USTs. The Two-Party Agreement guides how the Army performs necessary site assessments, monitors, remediates, and closes petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL)-contaminated source areas not subject to CERCLA oversight.

In October 1992, the State-Elmendorf Environmental Restoration Agreement was signed between Elmendorf AFB and the ADEC. This cooperative agreement addressed the cleanup and restoration of sites with POL contamination. These sites will not be discussed further in this plan because they are not CERCLA sites. The Air Force and ADEC later agreed the program reached the point where the agreement was no longer necessary, and it was dissolved in October 2002. The Air Force will now address the cleanup of any POL releases to the land and waters of Alaska following Alaska Administrative Code: 18 AAC 75 for contaminated sites and 18 AAC 78 for underground storage tanks.

**Figure 1-1. Boundaries for Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.**



## **2.0 JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON SITE BACKGROUND**

This section is an overview of the installation which will combine the former Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson NPL sites.

### **2.1 Site History**

In 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an executive order withdrawing about 45,000 acres of public land in Southcentral Alaska for use as a military reservation. By August 1940, the area was occupied by U.S. military troops. In December 1940, the War Department named this acreage Fort Richardson, in memory of Brigadier General Wilde P. Richardson, and placed the installation under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of the Army. The airfield on Fort Richardson was named Elmendorf Field, after Capt. Hugh M. Elmendorf, a pioneer aviator killed in 1933.

Before the outbreak of World War II, military strength in Alaska was less than 3,000; it soon grew to 7,800 soldiers stationed at Fort Richardson alone. As the war progressed, Fort Richardson's mission expanded significantly as the logistics base for numerous Army garrisons and the Air Corps.

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, Fort Richardson was charged with defending Alaska from invasion and coordinating the Alaskan war effort. The military facilities at the installation were instrumental in the defense of the Territory of Alaska during World War II, especially in support of the military operations in the Aleutian Islands.

The Air Force was established as a separate service in 1947. Army troops were redesignated as the U.S. Army Alaska (USARAK) Nov. 15, 1947, and assigned to the Alaskan Command, the nation's unified command staffed jointly by Army, Navy, and Air Force officers.

In March 1948, the airfield and an area encompassing about 13,000 acres of the original site of Fort Richardson were renamed Elmendorf AFB. The Army post was rebuilt on its location east of Elmendorf AFB in 1950.

During the past seven decades, much of the property once under military jurisdiction has changed ownership or use. Some of the land is now privately owned, some is owned and operated by state and local agencies, and some is leased to private users.

As a result of 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decisions, Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson began combining to establish JBER. The new joint base is scheduled to reach Full Operational Capability (FOC) Oct. 1, 2010.

## **2.2 Land and Resource Use**

Encompassing areas of Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson, JBER will include more than 74,000 acres. The installation is located in Southcentral Alaska adjacent to the cities of Anchorage and Eagle River. The Knik Arm of Cook Inlet borders the north and west side of the installation, and Chugach State Park lies to the south and southeast. The community of Eagle River lies along the eastern border; Anchorage forms the southwest boundary.

The northwestern boundary along Knik Arm from Chugach State Park property to Anchorage is approximately 18.5 miles long. The eastern border is 21 miles and also runs from the Knik Arm to Chugach State Park. The joint base is nearly 12 miles across at its widest point from east to west.

The majority of the land currently used by the Air Force and the Army is on long-term withdrawal from the public domain and was originally assigned to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Residual responsibility for the lands remains with the BLM, which retains interest in the stewardship of the transferred parcel even though the land is under the Department of Defense's long-term management.

Land use at JBER is varied. Most of the total land area is dedicated to ranges, combat courses, drop zones, airfields, troop loading yards, training facilities, open storage areas, and munitions storage areas. Other industrial-type activities that take place on the installation include aircraft and vehicle maintenance, general equipment and building maintenance, pest control and grounds keeping, printing, dry-cleaning, drinking water treatment, water quality and petroleum analysis, heat and electrical power generation, and dental and medical services. Other areas include support buildings such as schools, housing and recreational facilities. Lastly, the installation contains undeveloped areas of wetlands, ponds and lakes, including Sixmile Lake and Otter Lake. Eagle River and Ship Creek are the primary streams on the installation, running from east to west.

## **2.3 History of Contamination**

### **2.3.1 Fort Richardson**

Since World War II, Fort Richardson has supported combat unit training and operations that have resulted in various hazardous substances being released to soil and groundwater. Used oils, solvents, and fuel spills were reportedly discharged to the floor drains that drained directly to the sanitary sewer or to dry wells that discharged directly to subsurface soils. Waste oils, solvents, and contaminated fuels were used for fire training practice at fire burn pits. Waste oil USTs were installed at many of the maintenance facilities in the 1940's. Current DOD practices no longer allow uncontrolled or unpermitted releases of pollutants to the environment.

The primary environmental contaminants at Fort Richardson source area were white phosphorous, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) which are usually solvents and cleaners, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), petroleum and fuel products, and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Source areas are specific locations where contamination has been verified to exist in concentrations that prevent unrestricted use of land or water.

### **2.3.2 Elmendorf AFB**

The nature of operations at Elmendorf AFB has also involved the use and disposal of a wide variety of cleaners, solvents, fuels, and other chemicals. Accepted waste disposal practices have changed greatly over the 60-year existence of the base. Since 1981, all waste chemicals have been stored on base at an EPA-permitted hazardous waste storage area. Used oils, fuels, and hydraulic fluids are stored in a segregated manner at central collection areas. The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) arranges for contract disposal of these materials and wastes.

The main contaminants found at the base source areas included petroleum hydrocarbons and other fuel contaminants, such as benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, and xylenes; solvents, such as trichloroethene and tetrachloroethane; PAHs, such as fluoranthene and pyrene; PCBs; asphalt and associated chemicals; and heavy metals, such as lead; and pesticides, such as 4,4-dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) and 4,4-dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane (DDD).

## **2.4 History of Cleanup**

### **2.4.1 Fort Richardson**

The Army's investigation of contaminated sites at Fort Richardson under the ERP began in 1988. The objectives of the program were to assess sites where potentially hazardous material may exist and to develop and recommend remedial actions for those sites that pose a threat to human health and welfare or the environment.

After Fort Richardson was listed on the NPL in 1994, environmental assessment and remediation activities were performed to comply with CERCLA, as amended by SARA and subsequent amendments.

The FFA for Fort Richardson described the investigation and restoration approach agreed upon by the Army and the regulatory agency parties to the agreement. The FFA identified a number of source areas based on historical uses and past investigations. The FFA initially listed 102 potential source areas at Fort Richardson.

- No Further Action (NFA), response complete, was selected for 70 of these source areas.

- An additional nine source areas were identified for NFA under CERCLA following the FFA.
- Nineteen of the remaining potentially contaminated source areas were grouped into four operable units (OUs): OUA, OUB, OUC, and OUD. Site FTRS-047, Nike Site Summit, is still pending RI/FS and may or may not become a CERCLA site.
- Four source areas with known or suspected petroleum contamination not associated with a UST were transferred for investigation in accordance with the Environmental Restoration Agreement, the Two-Party Agreement with ADEC.

Decisions to recommend NFA at source areas were based on the following: 1) the physical location could not be identified or located in the investigation, 2) no visible sign of contamination was observed during the source area inspection, 3) the site was transferred for investigation under the Two-Party Agreement, or 4) environmental sampling results showed that contamination was present at levels below the protective human-health-based levels.

Under OUD, a post-wide human health and ecological risk assessment was performed for Fort Richardson to supplement the individual risk assessments conducted for each OU. The objectives of the risk assessment were to evaluate potential risks to wide-ranging receptors that may be exposed to multiple source areas and to fill data gaps that became evident upon thorough review of all data collected during each RI for each OU.

After publication of the 1991 Federal Facilities Compliance Act (FFCA), the Army conducted sampling activities at solid waste management units to establish whether or not hazardous wastes had been formerly managed at these units, and in some instances, prepared closure plans. These closure plans, developed under the RCRA program guidelines, were used as part of the CERCLA cleanup actions.

#### **2.4.2 Elmendorf AFB**

After Elmendorf AFB was listed on the NPL in 1990, 38 of the 85 source areas were CERCLA sources and originally divided into seven OUs, or study areas, identified for remedial activities conducted under the FFA. Subsequently, source areas in the seventh OU were reassigned to OU4 and OU6, and OU7 was closed under the ERP. Forty-two source areas were designated as POL-contaminated sources and remedial activities are being performed under the State of Alaska cleanup regulations.

After Elmendorf was well into the cleanup process of OUs 1 through 6, the Air Force began a final search for areas that may have been overlooked in the initial research efforts. This led to a series of reports on sites that might warrant further investigation. These sites, which ranged from

oil barrel dumps to formerly used training sites, were classified as points of interest, for those that seemed to be of lesser concern, and areas of concern (AOCs).

Studies of 22 sites were completed in 1997; three were identified as areas of potential environmental concern, 19 required no further action. The two sites needing more study were investigated in 1998. As a result of the limited field investigation, two sites were selected for study and possible remediation under the EE/CA process. The EE/CA process can be used to address sites where removal actions are not time-critical.

Currently, the Elmendorf AFB program manages 13 CERCLA sites that have selected remedies in place and require long-term operation or long-term monitoring. Only two additional CERCLA sites have not reached the “remedy in place” milestone: DP98 and SS22.

DP98, where fuel products and slightly elevated levels of chlorinated solvents were found, was discovered as part of underground tank removal. DP98 was removed from the EE/CA process, and efforts were converted to an RI/FS.

In 2002, tar seeps were found at SS22, Former DRMO Storage Yard. Subsequent investigations revealed 15 areas of buried debris, a zone of distressed vegetation, and a debris pile. After the Air Force began the RI/FS of the site in 2007, investigation identified radioactivity in soil from buried self-luminescent instrument dials. Initial results indicated groundwater contaminants were solvents, fuel, and arsenic, and soil contaminants were solvents, fuel, metals, PCBs, semi-volatile organics, and Radium-226. While the radiological risk is low, more oversight and monitoring are required to comply with U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards and Air Force policies. The field investigation portion of the RI/FS is ongoing, with a final RI/FS report currently expected in 2011.

### **3.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 Anchorage Community Profile**

Anchorage, with a population of 284,994 people according to 2008 Alaska statistics, is the most populated municipality in Alaska. The city is located in Southcentral Alaska at the head of Cook Inlet, the junction of Knik and Turnagain Arms, south of JBER. The area encompasses 1,697.2 square miles of land and 263.9 square miles of water.

The City of Anchorage was incorporated Nov. 23, 1920. From 1939 to 1957, major military impacts and government construction of roads, airports and harbors throughout Alaska contributed to the growth of Anchorage. The port was completed by the early 1960s. The Greater Anchorage Area Borough was formed Jan. 1, 1964. The Good Friday earthquake March 27, 1964, destroyed a large part of the city. During the 1970s, the development of the Prudhoe Bay oil fields and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline brought rapid growth to Anchorage; population, office space and housing tripled within a 10-year period. On Sept. 15, 1975, the city and borough governments were unified, along with the cities of Girdwood and Glen Alps.

Anchorage has a history of cultural diversity. Although predominantly white, nearly 10.5 percent of the Anchorage population is Alaska Native or part Alaska Native. In addition, census reporting shows 5.8 percent of the population is Black, 5.5 percent Asian, 1 percent Hawaiian native and 5.9 percent other races. Also, about 5.6 percent of the Anchorage population report being of Hispanic origin, regardless of race. Based on information from the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income for Anchorage in 2007 was \$67,856, and 8 percent of residents were living below the poverty level.

Anchorage is the center of commerce for Alaska. Oil and gas industries, finance and real estate, transportation, communications, and government agencies are headquartered in Anchorage. Numerous visitor and tourist facilities and services are also available.

#### **3.2 History of Community Involvement**

Both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson took actions throughout their respective environmental restoration programs to inform local communities of their progress and involve them in their programs. The following sections outline the past procedures used as part of the Community Involvement Program. The current Community Involvement Program is explained in Section 4 of this plan.

### **3.2.1 Mailing Lists**

Both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson created mailing lists, prepared in 1991 and 1995, respectively. The lists include a variety of federal, state, and local officials, news media representatives, environmental interest groups, community organizations and interested citizens. Throughout the cleanup process, individuals and organizations on the mailing list periodically receive community relations materials, such as fact sheets and meeting announcements, to keep them informed of the status of environmental restoration activities. The lists are planned for consolidation in 2011 or once the joint base programs have combined.

### **3.2.2 Administrative Record Files**

The original administrative record file for Elmendorf AFB was established at the Environmental Management Office on base in February 1992. The file contains all documents used to form the basis for the selection of cleanup actions under CERCLA. The administrative record files for OUs 1-6 have been closed but could be reopened if changes to a ROD become necessary. They were updated on a quarterly basis. The administrative record for SS22 will be maintained through the decision document stage as required.

The official copy of the Administrative Record for Fort Richardson was established and is currently maintained at the Directorate of Public Works, Building 724, on Fort Richardson. The Administrative Record was updated annually for OUs through the decision document stage since inception.

### **3.2.3 Information Repositories**

Elmendorf AFB established two publicly accessible Information Repositories in 1992; one at the BLM's Alaska Resources Library and one at the University of Alaska, Anchorage's (UAA) Consortium Library Reserve Desk. Fort Richardson likewise established Information Repositories in 1996 at these two off-post locations.

The BLM collection is now known as ARLIS, the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services, and is located at the UAA Consortium Library where both Information Repositories remain.

The file originally included microfiche copies of technical documents and paper copies of public information materials. In 2008, the Elmendorf AFB released its first Information Repository Electronic Document Archive and User Interface. The DVD offers a fully searchable resource to access documents, maps and other technical data contained in the Information Repository. Copies are available for public use at ARLIS. Although this system was intended to replace the hard copy environmental records currently maintained at the library, documents not yet included

in the electronic Information Repository are available in hard copy format at ARLIS until new DVDs are produced as part of the annual update. In addition, some documents, such as fact sheets, will remain available in hardcopy in the Information Repository for public convenience.

### **3.2.4 Fact Sheets**

Fact sheets are concise, nontechnical reports prepared in understandable language for the public about CERCLA topics and other remediation processes. Elmendorf AFB used fact sheets as a tool to describe project updates, investigation findings, proposed cleanup actions, and upcoming events. Fact sheets were also published at key project milestones, such as after completing the final engineering design, shutting down a treatment system, or when needed at other times during the remediation process. Fact sheets were distributed as appropriate to individuals on the mailing list, placed on the web site, made available at public meetings and maintained in the Information Repositories. Fort Richardson incorporated similar information into the program newsletters.

### **3.2.5 Newsletters**

Both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson incorporated the use of newsletters to keep the public informed about the status of environmental restoration activities on their respective installations. Copies were distributed to the installations' respective mailing lists and were included in the Information Repositories.

Elmendorf AFB published the first issue of *Environmental Update*, an eight-page newsletter, in 1992. The newsletter was distributed quarterly to individuals on the mailing list, providing an update of environmental restoration activities and related community relations activities being conducted at the base. The publication existed for seven years in various formats including topics on different aspects of the CERCLA process, state regulatory program requirements, and environmental compliance topics, such as hazardous waste reductions. The newsletter ceased publication in 1999.

The Fort Richardson newsletter, distributed on a quarterly basis, was entitled *Environmental Restoration News*. As necessary updates became less frequent, publication of the newsletter became on an as-needed basis.

### **3.2.6 Public Comment Periods**

Public comment periods provided an opportunity for the public to review and comment on proposed cleanup plans for interim or final remedial actions. Combined, Fort Richardson and Elmendorf AFB held 13 public comment periods following announcements of cleanup plans and in association with Five-Year Reviews for the programs.

Public comment periods are scheduled for 30-day periods. However, under the EPA's community involvement guidance, the comment period can be extended an additional 30 days if the request is made in a timely manner. During each comment period, the public was invited to mail written comments, provide oral or written comments at a public meeting, or record comments on a toll-free telephone number answering service, based on the event or program.

### **3.2.7 Public Meetings**

Both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson have conducted public meetings during 30-day public comment periods associated with the publication of the Proposed Plan for cleanup of a site or several sites grouped in an OU. Public meetings provided an opportunity for interested members of the public to receive information regarding proposed cleanup plans, to ask questions and listen to answers to those questions, and to submit comments. Court reporters transcribed public meeting proceedings, presentations and oral comments received by the public. Copies of the transcripts became part of the Administrative Record for the site. Copies of the transcripts were also placed in the Information Repositories.

Since 1992, a total of five public meetings were conducted in support of the environmental program at Fort Richardson, and an additional nine public meetings were held associated with key points in the Elmendorf AFB cleanup process.

Although the previous plans stated no additional public meetings were expected, future public meetings under JBER may be required in the remedial action process for the Nike Site Summit and SS22 restoration sites to meet CERCLA requirements and involve the public in these processes.

### **3.2.8 Public notices and press releases**

Historically, both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson placed public notices in the *Anchorage Daily News* and the respective installation newspaper to announce milestones in the investigation and remediation process. Additionally, Elmendorf AFB had also paid for public notices in the *Anchorage Chronicle* and *Chugiak-Eagle River Alaska Star*. Fort Richardson did not use these additional venues based on feedback received in a community questionnaire reporting that their current methods used to inform interested parties were adequate.

Public notices for both installations were published at the following milestones:

- When the Administrative Record file and Information Repositories were established;
- When a public comment period and public meeting for the RI/FS and Proposed Plan was scheduled for each OU;

- When the RI/FS and Proposed Plans became available for each OU;
- When the response action was selected and the RODs were signed; and
- When Five-Year Reviews were completed.

Public notices or media releases were used for other newsworthy events, as well as Community Environmental Board meetings.

### **3.2.9 Records of Decision and Responsiveness Summaries**

A ROD is the formal documentation step that identifies the remedial options chosen by the restoration program, with input from the ADEC and EPA and in consideration of public input received in the Proposed Plan. The responsiveness summary documents how public comments received during the public comment period have been integrated into the selection of the final remedial actions.

Five RODs have been issued to date as a result of the ERP and CERCLA program at Fort Richardson. Two RODs were signed in September 1997, one announcing the transfer of petroleum-contaminated source areas from OUA to the Two-Party Agreement and the other documenting the selected remedy for OUB, Poleline Road Disposal Area. The ROD for cleanup activities at OUC was signed in September 1998, and the ROD for cleanup activities at OUD was signed in June 2000. The ROD for OUE was signed in September 2005. All five RODs included responsiveness summaries addressing the comments received during the comment periods on their respective Proposed Plans.

At Elmendorf AFB, RODs were signed for final remedial action at each operable unit: OU1 was signed in September 1994, OU2 in May 1995, OU3 in January 1997, OU4 in October 1995, OU5 in February 1995, OU6 in January 1997 and DP98 in May 2004. A responsiveness summary was attached to each decision addressing all significant public comments received during each public comment period.

### **3.2.10 Technical Review Committee**

The goal of the Technical Review Committee established for Elmendorf AFB in November 1992 was to provide a forum for communication among the Air Force, EPA, ADEC, and affected communities in response to base CERCLA cleanup actions. From November 1992 until December 1994, the TRC served as an advisory body whose purpose was to review and comment on proposed environmental cleanup actions at Elmendorf AFB. Community representatives on the committee were also responsible for gathering and communicating to the committee any specific concerns from their communities about proposals for site cleanup options or possible final cleanup actions under consideration. In December 1994, this committee

transitioned into a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in accordance with new DOD guidance and EPA implementation guidelines.

### **3.2.11 Restoration Advisory Boards**

A RAB is a group comprising community and government representatives designed to act as a focal point for exchanging information between the base and the community. The board meeting is open to the public and intended to bring together members who reflect the diverse interests within the community to allow for a two-way flow of information, concerns, priorities, and needs.

Officials at Fort Richardson established a RAB in October 1997. Community members represented a Native American Tribe, academic institutions, state/national environmental activist groups, and the Anchorage/Eagle River community at large. This board initially met quarterly, then changed to a semi-annual meeting. The RAB reviewed available technical reports and offered written comments and recommendations concerning the Fort Richardson restoration program. Board members also participated in site visits to Fort Richardson cleanup sites.

The Elmendorf AFB RAB, established in 1994, also initially met on a quarterly basis, then changed to holding meetings twice a year with an annual summer tour. Elmendorf AFB's board consisted of representatives from the Air Force, EPA, ADEC, Municipality of Anchorage, Fort Richardson, and community members who represent neighboring communities or special interest groups including the public health, environmental, and business sectors. The board was also invited for summer site tours. Then in April 2003, the RAB transitioned into a Community Environmental Board.

### **3.2.12 Community Environmental Board**

The transition to a Community Environmental Board was made to meet the Elmendorf AFB RAB's request to address the base's environmental program in addition to the restoration program. Meeting topics expanded to include other environmental topics, such as non-CERCLA contaminated sites, base recycling program, wildlife management and cultural resources. Summer tours of environmental sites were also offered. The organizational and membership format of the CEB remained intact. This board will transition to become the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson CEB.

### **3.2.13 Photographic Exhibit**

In 1993, Elmendorf AFB released a photographic display that described the three environmental programs that at that time were overseen by the base's Environmental Management Office: environmental restoration, natural resource management, and environmental compliance. The

exhibit, which was first put on display at the Base Wildlife Museum, was subsequently displayed at a variety of locations in the Anchorage area and on base to promote environmental awareness and encourage public participation in base environmental restoration programs. Use of this cumbersome display has been discontinued. Future photographic exhibits could be considered to illustrate significant program changes, source areas or selected cleanup technology, but this option will be limited by the absence of on-base graphics capability.

### **3.2.14 Small Group Presentations and Public Workshops**

The purpose of small group presentations was to inform citizens and local officials of site activities, to answer questions, and to resolve any misconceptions or misunderstandings. To date, no small group presentations or public workshops have been requested at Fort Richardson.

Elmendorf AFB held a public workshop at the Government Hill Elementary School in 1992 to describe environmental programs, provide an overview of the CERCLA cleanup process, and discuss opportunities for public participation. A second public workshop was held in 1994 at the Orion Elementary School on base to inform base residents of the presence of low levels of PCBs in sediments in Cherry Hill Ditch. The workshop provided information about PCBs, the range of concentrations identified in the ditch area, location, and plans to conduct a removal activity to address the contamination. In July 1997, restoration program staff members attended a quad mayors' meeting to discuss rusty metal and asbestos found in OT82, part of a former landfill near Chugach Housing. Staff members also attended a quad mayors' meeting in 2001 to discuss SA100 and the removal of debris and soil during a housing construction project.

### **3.2.15 Technical Assistance Programs**

The restoration programs at Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson provided information on two technical assistance programs through public meetings and newsletters: Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) and the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) programs. To date, neither a TAG nor a TAPP has been implemented at either site.

The TAG program, established by Congress, was intended to foster informed public involvement in decisions related to site-specific cleanup strategies under CERCLA. This program provides funds for qualified citizen groups to hire independent technical advisors to help them understand and comment on technical factors in cleanup decisions that affect them.

The DOD established the TAPP program to assist community members of RABs and TRCs in participating more fully in the cleanup process affecting DOD installations. TAPP allows community members to obtain objective, independent scientific and engineering support concerning the restoration process through the issuance of government purchase orders to small business. Information about these programs is listed in Appendix C.

### **3.2.16 Community Interviews History**

The programs at Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson included several rounds of community interviews to identify community concerns and information needs and solicit other community input. The first interviews were conducted in August 1990 and September 1991 during the development of the initial Elmendorf AFB Community Relations Plan.

A second round of interviews at Elmendorf AFB was conducted during the spring and summer of 1993 when the Community Relations Plan was revised to address community concerns or information needs associated with interim remedial action work at ST41. Interviews were supplemented with results from a community questionnaire distributed in March 1993 to 900 base workers and residents. Questionnaire results were summarized in the 1993 *Base Questionnaire Report*.

The Fort Richardson program conducted community interviews in 1994 to identify community perceptions and concerns associated with their environmental studies. They conducted 35 formal interviews with post residents, community members, community groups, environmental groups, and representatives of federal, state, and local government.

In late 1995 and early 1996, a third round of community interviews was initiated as part of revisions to the Elmendorf AFB Community Relations Plan. A questionnaire was also distributed to 900 community members including 300 people on the mailing list, 300 people on base, and 300 citizens in the Anchorage community. Although return rates were low, questionnaire results contributed to identifying ways to improve communication between the base and the public. The *Final Community Questionnaire Results Report* was released in January 1996. In 1999, in preparation for another revision of the plan, interviews were conducted with 15 off-base citizens and officials and with five on-base residents or employees.

Interviews were conducted for the 2000 Community Relations Plan revision and again during the second Five-Year Findings Report in 2003. This consisted of 21 on and off-base citizens, employees and officials. The 2003 interviews were also used to assist in developing the 2004 revision of the Community Relations Plan.

The Fort Richardson program provided another questionnaire to the public in 2003 to gather information for the 2004 Fort Richardson Areawide Community Involvement Plan. Of the 170 questionnaires sent to members on their mailing list, 23 were returned.

### **3.3 Historical Community Responses**

Previous community interviews and community questionnaires or surveys conducted on behalf of both installations identified a number of public attitudes and concerns regarding the military

cleanup programs and other topics not necessarily concerning environmental issues. The following is a list of topics presented in previous Community Relations Plans since 1990. These comments do not necessarily reflect current attitudes, and based on response rates, may not be statistically significant.

### **3.3.1 Historical Prevalent Attitudes**

The following is a summary of public attitudes based on comments expressed during interviews or surveys and recorded in previous Community Relations Plans since 1990.

- Fort Richardson officials can be trusted to handle contamination problems promptly and effectively.
- Fort Richardson and Elmendorf AFB represent a single military presence.
- The Army should be honest and willing to provide information to the public.
- The main sources for information are the newspaper and television.
- Print media is the best way to provide notice to the community about environmental activities, including advertising RAB meetings.
- The environmental awareness program is highly effective and has made significant impact on the base and surrounding community.

### **3.3.2 Historical Community Concerns**

The following is a summary of concerns expressed during interviews or surveys and recorded in previous Community Relations Plans since 1990. Concerns listed in multiple plans are only listed once. Many respondents during interviews or surveys had no specific concerns. Concerns included:

- Sufficient cleanup of contaminated areas on Fort Richardson;
- Human health and the environment, particularly in recreational areas;
- Elmendorf AFB has contributed to contamination in the area that, while not mobile, is “certainly widespread”;
- Quality of life concerns for area residents;
- Recycling programs;
- Presence of nuclear material on post;
- Unnecessary destruction of natural growth on military lands;

- Wildlife protection;
- Energy plant in violation of pollution standards;
- Base closure;
- Fort Richardson and Elmendorf AFB working together to manage growth in their 50-year plan;
- Long-term effects of groundwater pollution;
- Unexploded ordnance at Temptation Peak;
- Future land disposal;
- Fort Richardson remaining a viable active component of the Anchorage and Eagle River communities;
- Overcrowding due to Stryker Brigade Combat Team;
- Alaska Community Action on Toxics lawsuit about Eagle River Flats;
- Lack of support to develop Cheney Lake as a floatplane base;
- Developing a livable and enjoyable place to work;
- Lack of access to public lands in East Anchorage;
- “Getting all the information” about restoration efforts;
- What cleanups are in progress and how many remain;
- Details of oil spill cleanups on base;
- Contamination leaching off base or into soil and water;
- “Old dumping”;
- RAB diversity, viability and recruitment;
- Bad record-keeping in the past;
- Storm water flow and discharges into Ship Creek;
- Promoting better integration between the post and neighboring communities;
- Commercial rafting on Eagle River; and
- Hiring local labor for work on post.

### **3.4 Current Community Concerns**

Previous Community Relations Plans and community involvement actions were based on addressing the public’s concerns expressed in previous community interviews and community questionnaires or surveys conducted on behalf of both installations. A community survey is currently planned for 2011 after the joint base becomes operational. This interim Community

Involvement Plan is scheduled for revision upon completion and analysis of the community survey. The revision will outline the survey methods, results and indications of the responses. The revised plan will also include a summary of communication needs and incorporate changes, as necessary, to reflect community concerns, needs, preferences and suggestions in relation to the JBER Community Involvement Program.

## **4.0 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM**

### **4.1 Goals and Objectives**

The goals of this Community Involvement Program are to do the following:

- Inform interested citizens and local officials about the progress of investigations and remedial activities;
- Encourage two-way communication between installation representatives and the community; and
- Provide opportunities for the public to participate in the planning of remedial actions at JBER.

Community concerns may change as the remedial process proceeds. Promoting two-way communication with the public during the investigations and cleanup is critical for community concerns to be addressed effectively. The community involvement activities described below are designed to meet the aforementioned goals during the period of transition as Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson become JBER.

### **4.2 Community Involvement Surveys**

Community involvement surveys and interviews provide the basis for decisions on the community involvement program and reference for the Community Involvement Plan. Results of the survey can indicate the public's familiarity with the environmental program, the public's concerns and attitudes about the installation and environmental restoration program, and the public's preferences for receipt of information and level of involvement in the process.

A community survey is currently planned for 2011 after the joint base becomes operational. This interim Community Involvement Plan is scheduled for revision upon completion and analysis of the community survey. The revision will outline the survey methods, results and indications. The revised plan will also incorporate changes, as necessary, to reflect community needs and preferences.

After a determination is made on survey methods, information on the survey will be distributed to individuals on the environmental mailing list, as explained in section 4.3.3. To be added to the list to receive information on the survey, contact the Elmendorf AFB Environmental Community Relations Coordinator at (907) 552-5756.

The Environmental Community Relations Coordinator, in coordination with EPA representatives, will determine when future community surveys should be conducted for subsequent revisions of the Community Involvement Plan.

### **4.3 Community Involvement Activities**

To meet the goals and objectives of the Community Involvement Program, installation representatives will undertake specific community involvement activities. These will include activities required by CERCLA and additional activities, as appropriate, to ensure that the community remains well informed and has the opportunity to express its concerns. These activities are described below.

The communication tools discussed in the remainder of Section 4 will provide the framework for the plan to involve the public and disseminate information among agencies; civilian and military personnel; the general public; the media; and the surrounding communities.

#### **4.3.1 Contact Person**

The current Environmental Community Relations Coordinator for Elmendorf AFB is coordinating plans for community involvement during the transition to the new JBER environmental restoration program. This point of contact can assist with addressing citizens' concerns, answering individual questions, responding to inquiries from the media or directing calls to another appropriate agency or representative, when appropriate. To reach the Elmendorf AFB Environmental Community Relations Coordinator, call (907) 552-5756.

#### **4.3.2 Administrative Record and Information Repositories**

The Administrative Record is the legal file of documents upon which the lead agency bases the selection of a response action for the site. This record for Fort Richardson, including all public comments, is maintained at the Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Resources Division Office, in Building 724, Fort Richardson. This record for Elmendorf AFB is maintained at the 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron Natural Resource Management Office Restoration Section, Building 5312, Elmendorf AFB. Installation officials will make decisions concerning combining locations of the Administrative Record for JBER once office spaces are designated.

A copy of the Administrative Record is made available to the public at the Information Repository. Information Repositories typically are established in accessible, public buildings and contain Administrative Record documents as well as current information, technical reports, and reference documents related to ERP and CERCLA sites. The Information Repositories for both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson remain in hardcopy format at ARLIS located at the UAA Consortium Library. Fully searchable electronic documents for Elmendorf AFB are also

available on DVDs for public use at ARLIS. The JBER Information Repository will remain available to the public at ARLIS, 3211 Providence Road, Anchorage, AK 99508.

### **4.3.3 Distribution Lists**

The distribution lists for both installations will combine once the joint base programs have combined. In addition, the program will continue to use electronic mail as the preferred method for distribution of community relations materials in an effort to reduce the impact on the environment, while keeping the community informed of the status of environmental restoration activities.

Both the electronic and traditional mailing lists contain contact information for elected and appointed government officials, concerned residents, businesses, other private organizations, special interest groups and media contacts. The Environmental Community Relations Coordinator currently updates and maintains the distribution list. Anyone interested in the environmental restoration program updates may contact the coordinator and ask to be placed on or removed from the distribution list.

### **4.3.4 Public Notices and News Releases**

Before remedial action plans are adopted, federal regulations require that a notice, providing a brief summary of the RI/FS and proposed plan and announcing a public comment period of 30 days, be published in a major newspaper of general circulation. A notice must also be published to announce the availability of the final remedial action plan or ROD. These documents will be available for public review at the Information Repository. The notice must state the basis and purpose of the selected action.

At this time, remedial action plans have been completed for all current CERCLA sites. Two additional sites may require these documents: FTRS-047, Nike Site Summit, and SS22, Former DRMO Storage Yard.

Upon conversion to JBER, as a minimum, the environmental restoration program will place public notices, in the *Anchorage Daily News* to announce milestones in the investigation and remediation process at the installation. In addition, the program will consider publishing paid public notices on adn.com, the *Chugiak-Eagle River Star*, the current installation newspaper, the *Valley Frontiersman* or through other means, depending on feedback from the planned community survey.

The same procedures will be used for public notices to announce public comment periods and public meetings on specific documents with regulatory requirements, as well as Community Environmental Board meetings.

In addition, the Environmental Community Relations Coordinator will prepare and distribute news releases to local newspapers and radio and television stations to communicate information on significant events in the environmental restoration program, as situations warrant.

#### **4.3.5 Small Group Presentations**

The purposes of small group presentations would be to inform citizens and local officials of site activities, to answer questions, and to resolve any misconceptions or misunderstandings about environmental restoration activities. While not used extensively in the past, small group presentations could be used to address specific concerns about environmental restoration topics on an as-needed basis. Requests for small group presentations should be coordinated through the Environmental Community Relations Coordinator.

#### **4.3.6 Newsletters and Fact Sheets**

While neither Fort Richardson nor Elmendorf AFB has recently published a recurring newsletter covering environmental restoration activities, this tool is available if the Environmental Community Relations Coordinator determines it is warranted, based on significant program developments or feedback from the community survey. Periodic fact sheets have generally replaced distribution of newsletters.

#### **4.3.7 Community Environmental Board**

The current Elmendorf AFB CEB meets in Anchorage twice each year, generally each spring and fall. The board is currently considering decisions to transition to become the JBER CEB. As such, meeting topics will continue to include other environmental topics, such as non-CERCLA contaminated sites, spill response, wildlife management and cultural resources, as well as information on former Fort Richardson sites. CEB meetings will continue to be used as a forum to update the public on restoration progress and to gather public feedback.

CEB meetings are open to the public, and anyone attending is welcome to take part in discussions on environmental topics covered in the meetings. Details on the meetings are advertised in Anchorage Daily News. More information is also available from the Environmental Community Relations Coordinator.

#### **4.3.8 Technical Assistance Programs**

Two technical assistance programs are available to qualified citizens groups to help them better understand technical factors in environmental cleanup decisions: TAG and TAPP programs.

The TAG program, established by Congress, was intended to foster informed public involvement in decisions related to site-specific cleanup strategies under CERCLA. This program provides funds for qualified citizen groups to hire independent technical advisors.

The DOD established the TAPP program to assist community members of RABs and TRCs in participating more fully in the cleanup process affecting DOD installations. TAPP allows community members to obtain objective, independent scientific and engineering support concerning the restoration process through the issuance of government purchase orders to small business.

To date, neither program has been implemented at either site. Information about these programs is listed in Appendix C.

#### **4.3.9 Public Meetings**

Future public meetings under JBER may be required to meet CERCLA requirements and involve the public in processes in the remedial action process for two sites: FTRS-047, Nike Site Summit, and SS22, Former DRMO Storage Yard,

In addition, public meetings or briefings may be held at other project milestones. Interested groups or individuals that want to request a public meeting are encouraged to contact the Elmendorf AFB Environmental Community Relations Coordinator at (907) 552-5756. Each request will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and depending on the needs of the group or individual, a smaller meeting or briefing may be scheduled to address those needs.

Public meetings, including the date, time, location and topics, will be advertised with public notices and press releases as appropriate. As a minimum, a paid public notice will be placed in the *Anchorage Daily News*. Public notices may be placed in other publications or online based on determination by the environmental restoration program staff, Environmental Community Relations Coordinator and community survey results. Appendix D contains a list of possible meeting locations.

#### **4.3.10 Public Comment Periods**

Public comment periods provide an opportunity for the public to review and comment on proposed cleanup plans for interim or final remedial actions. Generally public comment periods are scheduled for 30-day periods. However, under the EPA's community involvement guidance, the comment period can be extended an additional 30 days if the request is made in a timely manner. Public comment periods are expected after the completion of the proposed plans for FTRS-047, Nike Site Summit, and SS22, Former DRMO Storage Yard. Notification of public comment periods will be made through the public notice process.

#### **4.3.11 Records of Decision and Responsiveness Summaries**

A ROD is the formal documentation step that identifies the remedial options chosen by the restoration program, with input from the ADEC and EPA and in consideration of public input received in the Proposed Plan. Development and signature of the RODs for FTRS-047, Nike Site Summit, if required, and SS22, Former DRMO Storage Yard, are expected by 2013.

The restoration program will prepare a Responsiveness Summary, listing all comments received during each comment period and responses to the comments, for each of these sites. The Responsiveness Summaries will be made available in the Information Repositories and Administrative Record.

#### **4.3.12 Web Site and Electronic Media**

Both Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson currently maintain public Web sites. Decisions on the implementation of a joint base Web site are pending. The environmental restoration program will continue to use available Web sites or other electronic media to disseminate public information, including meeting details, based on inputs from the community survey and guidance from higher headquarters.

#### **4.3.13 Community Involvement Plan Revision**

The first Elmendorf AFB Community Relations Plan was published in January 1992; the original Fort Richardson Areawide Community Relations Plan was published in April 1995. This Community Involvement Plan combines and revises the 2004 versions of these documents. A community survey is currently planned for 2011 after the creation of the joint base. This interim Community Involvement Plan is scheduled for revision upon completion and analysis of the community survey. Subsequent revisions should be scheduled every three years while the installation continues active restoration of sites under CERCLA.

## **5.0 APPENDICES**

- A Glossary of Terms**
- B Description of Operable Units**
- C Technical Assistance Programs**
- D Public Meeting Locations**

## APPENDIX A

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following is a glossary of terms used in the area of environmental restoration.

**Action Memorandum.** A document that provides a concise, written record of the decision to select an appropriate removal action under the EE/CA process. It summarizes the results of an EE/CA, along with EPA's response decision and parallels the function of a Record of Decision.

**Administrative Record.** Original documents including correspondence, public comments, the ROD, and technical reports from the agency responsible for the site upon which remedial action selection is based.

**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC).** The state government agency responsible for overseeing compliance with Alaska state environmental quality regulations.

**Area of Concern (AOC).** Areas that may have been overlooked during the original 1983 record search and subsequent remedial investigation at Elmendorf AFB, and where hazardous materials or petroleum products may have been stored or disposed of. A site becomes an AOC when contamination is addressed in follow-on projects.

**Benzene (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>).** A colorless liquid with an aromatic odor. It is widely used in the manufacture of many chemical substances and in the rubber industry. It is commonly found in petroleum products. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that three-fourths of all Americans have probably been exposed to benzene in varying degrees. Much of the exposure occurs when pumping gasoline.

**Bioventing.** A technology that supplies oxygen to underground soils using blowers that either inject or extract air through specially designed wells. The oxygen is used to promote bacterial growth and improve the rate at which soil bacteria naturally break down contamination.

**Community Environmental Board (CEB).** Similar to a RAB organization, however issues addressed cover the entire installation's environmental program in addition to the restoration program. Meetings include presenters from a wide gamut of environmental activities to include non-CERCLA contaminated sites, wildlife management and cultural resources.

**Community Involvement Plan.** A plan that outlines specific community involvement activities that occur during the remedial response at a facility. The Community Involvement Plan provides information about recorded community concerns and outlines how the installation will keep the public informed and involved in the cleanup process at the facility. Formerly known as the Community Relations Plan.

**Community Relations Plan.** See **Community Involvement Plan**

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA).** An act that sets up a program to identify sites where hazardous substances have been, or might be, released into the environment to ensure they are cleaned up.

**Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO).** A Defense Department agency that disposes of excess military property or materials, often through reuse, resale, or recycling.

**4,4-Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane (DDD) (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>).** An insecticide similar to DDT with similar toxicity.

**4,4-Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>5</sub>).** The first chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticide. The Environmental Protection Agency banned registration and interstate sale of DDT for virtually all but emergency uses in the United States in 1972 because of its persistence in the environment and accumulation in the food chain.

**Emergency Response Action.** Action taken immediately to stop a threat if a source poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment.

**Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA).** The EE/CA is a scaled-down and focused removal action equivalent to an RI/FS that is required when a lead agency determines a removal action is appropriate and that a minimum six-month planning period exists prior to on-site removal action initiation. These contain an evaluation of possible alternative technologies, selection of the removal, and document the decision-making process. Screening process and analysis of removal options is based upon such factors as technical feasibility, institutional considerations, reasonable cost, timeliness in respect to threat of mitigation, environmental impacts, and protectiveness.

**Environmental Restoration Account.** The Environmental Restoration Account is an account of money used for cleanup of active, inactive, formerly used lands, and lands and resources affected by past DOD releases of hazardous substances. This account emphasizes the identification, investigation, and cleanup of contamination from hazardous substances and wastes; correction of other environmental damage, such as unexploded ordnance detection and disposal; demolition and removal of unsafe and unsightly buildings and structures; debris removal; and improvements to hazardous waste operations in DOD.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).** The federal government agency responsible for overseeing compliance with federal environmental regulations.

**Environmental Restoration Program (ERP).** The DOD program started in 1980 designed to identify, confirm or quantify, and remediate problems associated with past environmental releases of hazardous substances and petroleum products. Also referred to as the Installation Restoration Program.

**Ethylbenzene (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>10</sub>).** A chemical commonly found in petroleum products.

**Facility.** The term “facility,” as defined in CERCLA, refers to any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment works), well, pit, pond, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, or aircraft, or any source or area where a hazardous substance has been deposited, stored, disposed of, or placed, or otherwise come to be located; but does not include any consumer product in consumer use or any vessel.

**Federal Facility Agreement (FFA).** An agreement signed by respective agencies to manage site cleanup under CERCLA. The Air Force, EPA Region 10, and ADEC signed an FFA for Elmendorf AFB in November 1991. The Army, EPA Region 10 and ADEC signed an FFA for Fort Richardson in December 1994.

**Fluoranthene (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>10</sub>).** A polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) found in creosote and waste oils that can also be a byproduct of producing plastics.

**Groundwater.** Underground water that fills pores in soil or openings in rock. When groundwater accumulates in significant quantities and quality, it may be used as a source of drinking water.

**Installation Restoration Program (IRP).** See **Environmental Restoration Program (ERP)**

**Institutional Control.** A legal and enforceable restriction or agreement that enhances and complements the permanence of a cleanup remedy. Examples are zoning or land use restrictions limiting use or installation of domestic water supply wells.

**Interim Remedial Action (IRA).** Early actions taken to eliminate, reduce, or control the hazards posed by a site or to expedite the completion of total site cleanup.

**Lead (Pb).** A common metal that can be toxic by ingestion or by inhalation of contaminated dust or fumes.

**Lead Agency.** The agency or organization which has the principal responsibility for carrying out environmental restoration activities at a site.

**Limited Field Investigation (LFI).** Screening investigations of potential source areas that lack sufficient data to determine whether these areas pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment. Based on LFI results, a source area may be recommended either for no further action or for remedial investigation to fully characterize the nature and extent of contamination.

**Long-Term Monitoring (LTM).** Measurements of soil, surface water, and/or groundwater taken during environmental remediation to determine the extent of contamination, document concentrations, and evaluate when cleanup levels have been met.

**Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA).** Specific, scheduled monitoring of contaminants in soil and water to determine the rate that natural physical, chemical, and biological processes are breaking down contaminants. See **Natural Attenuation**

**National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP).** The NCP establishes EPA's response policy and lays out the key regulatory response steps for implementing CERCLA. It is located in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 300.

**National Priorities List (NPL).** The Environmental Protection Agency list of top priority hazardous waste sites in the country that are eligible for investigation and cleanup under the Superfund program.

**Natural Attenuation.** Natural physical, chemical, and biological processes that break down contaminants in soil and water. Also see "monitored natural attenuation."

**Operable Unit (OU).** A term used to describe a portion or study area within a CERCLA site. An OU may be based on a particular type of contaminant, contaminated medium (such as soils or water), source of contamination or geographical location.

**Petroleum Hydrocarbons.** A large group of chemicals that make up oils and gasoline.

**Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs).** A group of toxic, persistent chemicals used in transformers and capacitors for insulating purposes and in gas pipeline systems as a lubricant. In 1979, further sale or new use of PCBs was banned by law.

**Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs).** A group of compounds formed as a result of the incomplete combustion of hydrocarbons. They are often produced as a byproduct of burning plastics. PAHs commonly occur in the environment, originating from both natural and man-made sources.

**Proposed Plan.** A document requesting public input on a proposed cleanup alternative.

**Public Comment Period.** A time during which the public can review and comment on various documents with environmental impact. For example, CERCLA requires a minimum 30-day comment period is held to allow citizens to review and comment on the proposed plan for cleaning up contamination at a site.

**Pyrene (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>10</sub>).** A PAH found in coal tars and waste oils. It is a byproduct of the combustion of fossil fuels.

**Radionuclide.** An atom with an unstable nucleus. Very low levels of radionuclides are common in air and water; most are naturally occurring and at levels low enough not to be considered a public health concern. When radionuclides are present in higher concentrations, radioactive contamination may be present.

**Radium-226 (Ra-226).** An isotope of radium, a radioactive chemical element. Radium is an alkaline earth metal that is found in trace amounts in uranium ores. Ra-226 has a half-life of 1,602 years and decays into radon gas.

**Receptor.** Plants, animals, or human populations that could potentially be exposed to contamination.

**Record of Decision (ROD).** A public document used to explain the remedial alternative selected for a CERCLA site.

**Remedial Action (RA).** A long-term action taken to stop or substantially reduce a release, or a threatened release, of hazardous substances, which is a serious but not an immediate threat to public health.

**Remedial Action Report (RA Report).** A report that documents implementation of remedial actions at a site or OU. The report is done when all remedial actions are operational and functional. See **Remedial Action**

**Remedial Design (RD).** A set of specific plans prepared to conduct the remedial action selected in the ROD.

**Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS).** Two distinct but related studies. The first study is the remedial investigation (RI), which examines the nature and extent of contamination problems at the site. The second is the feasibility study (FS), which evaluates different methods to remediate, or clean up, the contamination problems found during the remedial investigation.

**Remedy in Place/Remedial Action-Operation (RIP).** This is a status indicator for sites where remedial systems are in place and operational.

**Removal Action.** An immediate action taken over the short term to address a release or threatened release of hazardous substances, such as containing waste safely onsite to eliminate further problems, or identifying and removing a source of groundwater contamination to halt the further movement of contaminants. Such interim remedial measures are short of the final remediation for a site.

**Response Complete (RC).** A status determination that the final site remedy has been constructed in accordance with design specifications, is operational and functional, is being maintained as required by CERCLA and the National Contingency Plan, and all long-term operations and maintenance activities are in place at a site, or that investigations are complete at the site and funding under the ERP will be terminated.

**Responsiveness Summary.** A summary of oral and/or written public comments received during a comment period on key cleanup action documents and the lead agency's response to those

comments. The responsiveness summary is a key part of the ROD, highlighting community concerns for lead agency decision makers.

**Restoration Advisory Board (RAB).** An advisory board that contains representatives from the military, neighboring communities, regulatory agencies, and public interest groups. The RAB is designed to act as a focal point for exchanging information between the base and the community.

**Risk Assessment (RA).** A process to characterize the nature and magnitude of health risks to humans and ecological systems from chemical contaminants and other stressors that may be present in the environment.

**Sediment.** A layer of soil, sand, and minerals that covers the bottoms of streams and lake beds. Contaminants often accumulate in sediment.

**Selected Remedy.** The remedial action that has been selected and approved through the signing of the ROD.

**Semi-annual Progress Reports.** Reports published twice a year, 1–2 pages in length prepared by the base restoration office on each OU and EE/CA site. Each report summarizes the history, remedial actions, chemicals of concern, action taken during the current quarter and action planned for the upcoming quarter.

**Site.** The word site can be used to refer to the total area of Elmendorf Air Force Base or Fort Richardson because the entire installations are listed on the National Priorities List. It can also refer to a specific cleanup area within the installation, such as SS22.

**Site Closeout.** A status determination that no further response actions under the ERP are appropriate or anticipated and the regulatory agencies concur. At NPL sites, such as Elmendorf AFB or Fort Richardson, this step includes following proper procedures for deletion from the NPL.

**Solvents.** Substances, usually liquids, capable of dissolving or dispersing one or more other substances.

**State-Elmendorf Environmental Restoration Agreement (SERA).** A regulatory compliance agreement signed on October 2, 1992, by ADEC and Elmendorf AFB. It established a compliance schedule for conducting a variety of environmental cleanup activities at 32 state program source areas at Elmendorf Air Force Base, including petroleum, oil, and lubricants spills and underground storage tanks. The Army and ADEC signed the State-Fort Richardson Underground Storage Tank Compliance Agreement for USTs (Two-Party Agreement) in 1993 and the State-Fort Richardson Environmental Restoration Agreement (Two-Party Agreement) for Non-UST source areas in November 1994.

**Superfund.** The commonly used term that describes the federal legislation authorizing the Environmental Protection Agency to investigate and respond to the release or threatened release

of hazardous substances into the environment. It is also known as CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act). In 1986, Superfund was reauthorized as SARA (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act).

**Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA).** Modifications to CERCLA enacted on October 17, 1986. The program was dissolved Oct. 21, 2002.

**Surface Water.** Bodies of water that are above ground, such as rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds, as well as precipitation (rainwater or snow melt) flowing on the ground.

**Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs).** Program that provides up to \$50,000 to community groups wishing to hire consultants to interpret sampling results, reports, and other documents. Twenty percent of the requested funding amount must be matched by the group. The matching funds may be obtained from in-kind services and may originate from any nonfederal source.

**Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP).** DOD funds made available to a RAB or TRC to help members better understand the scientific and engineering issues involved in an installation's restoration activities. The technical assistance is procured through government purchase orders and is limited to \$25,000 per year or 1 percent of the total restoration cost, whichever is less.

**Technical Review Committee (TRC).** This committee provides relevant state and local authorities and the public the opportunity to review and comment on proposed DOD response actions, including the review of all applicable data, studies, reports, and action plans. Many installations have replaced their TRC with a Restoration Advisory Board.

**Tetrachloroethene (PCE) ( $C_2Cl_4$ ).** Also known as perchloroethene. PCE is used as a dry-cleaning agent; an industrial degreaser; a solvent for oils, paints, and varnishes; and an anesthetic.

**Toluene ( $C_7H_8$ ).** A clear liquid with a sweet, pungent odor. Toluene is used in the manufacturing of organic compounds, dyes, and explosives. It is also used as a solvent for paints and coatings and a component of automobile and aviation fuels.

**Treatability Study.** A study performed to better define the physical and chemical parameters needed to evaluate cleanup options. A treatability study examines the effectiveness of a particular technology for treating specific site wastes.

**Trichloroethene (TCE) ( $C_2HCl_3$ ).** A colorless liquid with a sweet odor. It has many common uses such as a general solvent, a degreaser in dry cleaning, or a constituent in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals.

**Underground Storage Tank (UST).** As defined under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Subtitle I regulations, this is any tank that stores regulated substances (such as petroleum

products or hazardous substances) and that has at least 10 percent of its volume below the ground surface.

**White Phosphorus.** A synthetic substance that has been used in poisons, smoke-screens, matches, and fireworks, and has been used as a raw material in the production of phosphoric acid. It has been used in smoke-producing munitions since World War I. White phosphorus is thermodynamically unstable in the presence of atmospheric oxygen.

**Xylenes (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>10</sub>).** Chemicals used as solvents and as constituents in paint, lacquers, enamels, and rubber cement. Xylenes are also found in aviation and motor fuels.

More information on contaminants and waste are available at the EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/topics.htm>.

## APPENDIX B

### DESCRIPTION OF OPERABLE UNITS

#### Elmendorf AFB

CERCLA sources at Elmendorf AFB were originally divided into seven OUs or study areas. An OU is a unit in which similar types of contamination sources have been grouped together, based on similarities in types of contaminants present, source locations, or types of remedial actions anticipated. Subsequently, source areas in the seventh OU were reassigned to OU4 and OU6, and OU7 was closed under the ERP.

After Elmendorf was well into the cleanup of OUs 1 through 6, the Air Force began looking for areas that may have been overlooked in the initial research efforts to catalog the base's contaminated sites. This led to a series of reports on sites that might warrant further investigation. These sites, which ranged from oil barrel dumps to formerly used training sites, were classified as points of interest, for those that seemed to be of lesser concern, and AOCs. One AOC site, known as OT82, was littered with rusty metal and one pile of asbestos. Because the site was near a housing area, the cleanup was expedited in 1998 as part of the investigation process and included removal of the drums and the asbestos.

In 2001, during the construction of a private sector financed housing project near the Boniface entrance to Elmendorf, buried and suspected contaminated soil were discovered. The site, referred to as SA100 was quickly designated as a CERCLA "time critical removal action." The site investigation began immediately followed by a removal action in August through September 2001. Approximately 1,000 cubic yards of soil, 568 tons of debris and 175 drums of uncontaminated soil were characterized and disposed of appropriately. Due to lead concentrations, about 22 tons of soil was classified as hazardous waste and 114 tons of soil was classified as being above ADEC cleanup criteria but a non-hazardous material; both were transported to a RCRA-permitted facility in Idaho.

Twenty-one confirmation samples confirmed that all metal concentration above background levels and all petroleum-contaminated soils above regulatory criteria had been removed. The USAF and EPA determined a ROD was not necessary as the site was documented in the site closure document and the 2003 Five-Year Review. No further response actions are necessary and the site is considered closed.

Studies of 22 sites were completed in 1997; three were identified as areas of potential environmental concern, 19 required no further action. The two sites needing more study were investigated in 1998. As a result of the limited field investigation, two sites have been selected for study and possible remediation under the EE/CA process.

As explained in paragraph 1.2.1, an EE/CA can be used to address sites where removal actions are not time-critical. SS83, a former World War II anti-aircraft artillery site near Sixmile Lake, is contaminated with fuel products, fuel-related chemicals and lead. DP98, where fuel products and slightly elevated levels of chlorinated solvents were found, was discovered as part of underground tank removal. Both areas are in remote restricted areas of the base. Both DP98 and SS83 were removed from the EE/CA process. DP98 efforts were converted to an RI/FS. SS83 was removed from the CERCLA process to the State Sites Program and converted to a site assessment.

The following are brief descriptions of each OU. Additional information is available in the ROD for each OU, the base Management Action Plan and the Five-Year Review. The base's outwash plain is under institutional controls that prohibit use of the shallow aquifer until cleanup goals are achieved. Specific controls at LF59 within OU1 prohibit any land use except outdoor/recreational use. Construction of manned facilities is prohibited at OUs 1, 2 and 6, and OU4 is designated as an "Airfield Use Area" for aircraft operations and maintenance, to include active and inactive runways, taxiways, and parking aprons for aircraft. Land use controls also restrict water use to limit access to contaminated groundwater.

**Operable Unit 1.** OU1 is located in the eastern portion of the base, next to the Davis Highway and immediately north of Ship Creek. OU1 is more than 60 acres in size. It consists of five general waste disposal areas where various types of material were disposed of, including general refuse, scrap metal, used chemicals, construction debris, and drums of asphalt.

The OU1 ROD was signed in September 1994 and focused on groundwater. The remedy included groundwater monitoring and LUCs.

Evaluations of groundwater in 2003 indicated all wells throughout OU1 had achieved cleanup goals with the exception of one well (LF59) which will continue to be monitored for TCE as part of the Base Groundwater Monitoring Program. In July 2004, a closure report was signed for LF05, LF07, LF13, and OT56 which had met the cleanup goals.

Results of 2009 Five-Year Review for OU4: Concentrations of TCE in groundwater at LF59 are decreasing and are expected to reach cleanup levels by 2018.

**Operable Unit 2.** This OU contains two areas where USTs had been constructed; ST20, located in the central portion of the base and ST41, located in the western part. ST20 is the former site of a 338,000-gallon UST used to store Bunker C fuel oil for the original base power plant. After the power plant was shut down, the tank was used to store waste oils, used solvents, and other wastes generated by industrial shops. The tank was cleaned and demolished in 1990.

ST41 is the former site of four one-million-gallon USTs. An interim ROD for the groundwater contamination at ST41 was signed in September 1992. As a result of this ROD, a free product and dissolved phase recovery treatment system was installed at ST41.

The OU2 ROD was signed in May 1995, and it focused on removal of contaminant sources and continued groundwater cleanup at ST41. Due to minimal soil contamination at ST20, this site was designated as a NFA source in this ROD.

All remedial actions were operational and functional, as documented in the OU2 RA Report in 1998. The source removal (tank, pipeline, and soil) was successfully completed in 1996. The removal of the sediments contaminated above cleanup levels, closure of the tanks, and removal of a major contaminant transport mechanism (the wood stave pipe down gradient from Tank 601) represent a major reduction in potential risk to human health and the environment.

The groundwater treatment system and monitoring program were in place, operational and functional until December 1998, when EPA, ADEC and the Air Force agreed to shut down the system. This shutdown was based on the data collected since the 1993 RI. The lack of recovery of product suggests that a very limited amount of free product remains at ST41.

Surface water and groundwater data verify dissolved contamination is not migrating and natural attenuation is occurring. ST41 is now in monitored natural attenuation. It is estimated that all cleanup goals will be attained by 2021.

Results of 2009 Five-Year Review for OU2: The remedy included source removal (completed in 1996), operation of a groundwater treatment system (completed in 1999), natural attenuation, and LUCs. Contaminants in groundwater are not migrating and concentrations are decreasing. No recoverable free product has been detected in groundwater wells since 2003. Surface water at the point-of-compliance in the wetlands north of the site met cleanup levels in 2008.

**Operable Unit 3.** OU3 is located in the southwestern portion of Elmendorf AFB. This OU consists of three sources and one receptor area. At SD16, waste solvents from Building 8197 were disposed of in open trenches. At SD31, floor drains from Building 7309 (Hangar 5) were discharged into dry wells and septic systems. The septic system and dry wells at SD31 were excavated in 1993. SS21 is an area where transformers containing PCBs were stored. SD52, Cherry Hill Ditch, is a receptor for the storm water from a major portion of the base. In 1994, contaminated soil was excavated, and the bottom of Cherry Hill Ditch was capped. A storm water diversion project was completed at this receptor area. SD16, SD31, and SD52 were determined to be NFA sources in the OU3 ROD. The OU3 ROD was signed in January 1997, and the selected remedy focused on the PCB soil contamination at SS21.

Response actions at OU3 are complete. The RA Report was signed by EPA and ADEC in May 1999. The successful completion of the SS21 remedial action allows for unlimited use and

unrestricted exposure to the site. No future five-year reviews of OU3 will be conducted because the remedial action was successfully completed as planned.

**Operable Unit 4.** OU4 consists of 10 source areas which include floor drains in eight maintenance facilities (SD24 through SD30 and SS18), a fire training area (FT23), and an asphalt drum storage and processing area (SS10). Eight of the 10 source areas in OU4 are located north of the east-west runway and south of the Elmendorf Moraine. The remaining two source areas (SD30 and SS18) are located south of the east-west runway, near Arctic Warrior Drive between OUs 3 and 5. Sites SD24, SD28 and SD29 have no further study planned and are undergoing long-term monitoring. Due to minimal soil contamination at SD26, SD27, SD30, and SS18, these sites have been designated as NFA sources. During the fall of 1993 and summer of 1994, a response action at SS10 removed both liquid asphalt and asphalt-containing soils left over from former asphalt batch operations. More than 100,000 gallons of asphalt were recovered and recycled for reuse on base.

The OU4 ROD was signed in October 1995.

All remedial actions are operational and functional, as documented in the OU4 RA Report. Bioventing and monitoring are continuing at all OU4 location, in accordance with the Bioventing Performance and Monitoring Plan.

The success of the bioventing system is evidenced by monitoring which shows that COC concentrations at sites SS10, FT23, and SD25 have decreased significantly over the five years the bioventing systems have been in operation. A status of soil monitoring results are summarized below:

SS10 Soils: Total volatile hydrocarbon concentrations in soil gas testing results in 2001 indicate that low levels of petroleum hydrocarbons are still present in the subsurface. However, the in-situ respiration testing results indicated that bioventing continues to enhance hydrocarbon degradation.

FT23 Soils: The blower at FTA-2 was shut down in 2000 after 1999 sampling showed that cleanup levels had been met. In 1999, the original area treated by FTA-1 had also met cleanup levels; however, the blower at FTA-1 continues to operate because the system was expanded in 2002 to address contamination that was identified at an area that was not included in the original treatability study (soil boring SB-64). A revised cleanup date for FT23 has not been established for the new area of contamination that was identified during the 1999 sampling. The sample (SB-64) exhibited contamination above the cleanup levels from the soil horizon immediately above the water table. Based upon the depth of contamination in the soil boring and the depth to groundwater at FT23, it appears that contaminated groundwater may be spreading contamination in the smear zone above the water table and in saturated soil at FT23. Groundwater appears to be

re-contaminating subsurface soil in the smear zone at the groundwater interface. Although the bioventing system may slightly enhance biodegradation in this case, it is not designed to remediate saturated soils. Therefore, it is unlikely that soil cleanup levels will be met until groundwater is further remediated and constant recontamination of these soils subsides. The groundwater monitoring and LUCs will ensure protectiveness in the interim.

SD25 Soils: Closure sampling conducted in 1999 indicated cleanup levels had been achieved for DRO, GRO and total BTEX, but cleanup levels were not met for benzene. Follow-on closure sampling in July 2002 documents that degradation of benzene has occurred and remediation at SD25 is complete (USAF, 2002d). Annual reports from 1997 to the present provide analytical data collected from the bioventing systems.

Analysis of trends in groundwater chemicals of concern (COC) concentrations at OU4 is as follows:

OU4 East Plume: TCE concentrations in this plume are approximately half of the concentration levels of 1993. The ROD predicted that the groundwater cleanup level would be reached by 2008. Although natural attenuation is occurring, it is likely that the cleanup duration may exceed ROD specifications.

OU4 West Area: FTA Plume (OU4 FT23): Benzene remediation appears to be on track with the cleanup level to be reached by 2008. The chlorinated compounds found at OU4, however, are degrading more slowly than predicted by the groundwater models. Tetrachloroethene, TCE, and 1,2-dichloroethene may not reach cleanup levels by 2008. Remediation appears to be on track for ethylbenzene and toluene; however, remediation of benzene may take longer than specified in the ROD.

In 2002, groundwater samples at OU4 were analyzed for natural attenuation parameters, VOCs, GRO, and DRO. The analytical data were reviewed to determine if any chemicals, other than COCs, were present at concentrations above current state or federal cleanup levels. GRO and DRO, neither of which is included in the OU4 ROD chemical-specific ARARs for groundwater, were both found above ADEC groundwater cleanup levels. No federal cleanup levels exist for GRO and DRO in groundwater.

Results of 2009 Five-Year Review for OU4: The remedy included bioventing of deep soils at three source areas, natural attenuation of contaminants in groundwater and shallow soils, and LUCs. Contaminant concentrations in deep soils meet cleanup levels except at FT23, where bioventing continues. Shallow soils meet cleanup levels throughout OU4. SS10 met cleanup levels for all contaminants of concern and was closed in 2006. Contaminant concentrations meet cleanup levels in SD28 groundwater and are trending toward cleanup levels at most of the groundwater wells in OU4.

**Operable Unit 5.** OU5 is located along the southern boundary of Elmendorf AFB adjacent to Ship Creek. OU5 covers an area more than 7,000 feet long and 1,200 feet wide. Approximately 90 percent of the shallow aquifer flowing through Elmendorf AFB is thought to flow into OU5.

Upgradient sources from OU5 (OUs 1, 2, 4 and several SERA sites) are the source of some of the groundwater contamination in OU5. Regardless of the source, groundwater contamination is being treated through OU5 remedial actions, including the ST37 wetland system described below. Due to minimal soil contamination at ST38, SS42, SD40, ST46, and SS53, these sites have been designated as NFA sources.

The OU5 ROD was signed in February 1995.

All remedial actions are operational and functional, as documented in the OU5 RA Report. The ST37 wetland system is operational, and the operations and maintenance manual has been completed. Groundwater monitoring and sediment sampling is continuing at OU5 and upgradient locations, in accordance with the Environmental Monitoring Plan.

Response actions at OU5 are ongoing and are expected to continue until 2025, based on current estimates of the time to remediation documented in the annual groundwater monitoring reports.

Results of 2009 Five-Year Review for OU5: The remedy included natural attenuation and LUCs for groundwater contaminants, groundwater monitoring, and collection and treatment of contaminated seeps in constructed and natural wetlands. The remedies have prevented contaminant migration. Effluent from constructed and natural wetlands meets all cleanup levels, and contaminants have not been detected at the point-of-compliance, Ship Creek. TCE concentrations currently meet cleanup levels at three seeps that were previously contaminated. Natural attenuation of TCE in groundwater is occurring, but it is taking longer than originally predicted in some areas of OU5.

**Operable Unit 6.** OU6 consists of three source areas located north of the Elmendorf Moraine (LF04, SD15, and WP14) and three source areas located south of Ship Creek (LF02, LF03, and SD73). LF04 is an old landfill used from 1945 to 1957. SD15 and WP14 are old POL sludge disposal sites. LF02 and LF03 are old abandoned landfills. SD73 consists of surface drains in a building once used as a rock testing laboratory and a surface disposal area next to the building. Due to minimal contamination at LF03 and SD73, they were designated as NFA sources in the OU6 ROD. In FY96, SS19 was moved to OU6 from OU7. During the FY95 field season, an expedited response action to remove pesticide-contaminated soil was completed at SS19. As a result of the successful completion of the expedited response action, the agencies have agreed this source qualifies as an NFA source. Because the contaminated soils at SS19 have

been satisfactorily removed, and the residual risk is at an acceptable level, no further action is required. The OU6 ROD was signed in January 1997.

All remedial actions are operational and functional, as documented in the OU6 RA report. Groundwater monitoring is continuing at all OU6 locations, in accordance with the Environmental Monitoring Plan.

A high-vacuum extraction (HVE) system constructed in 1996 is being used to treat soil and groundwater contamination at SD15. Debris and concrete pads were removed and disposed of at a local land reclamation area. Shallow contaminated soils were excavated, taken to Alaska Soil Recycling, and recycled in a low-temperature thermal desorption unit. After treatment, the soils were returned to SD15 and used as backfill material.

The perched aquifer at SD15 and the shallow aquifer in the outwash plain still exceed cleanup goals. Summaries of monitoring information are available in the annual groundwater monitoring report. Response actions at SD15 continued until 2007.

The initial removal of debris on the beach below LF04 was conducted in the summer of 1997. Beach sweeps will be conducted until no further debris falls on the beach. For planning purposes, this has been set at 30 years.

In September 2003, a Memorandum to the Site File was signed for OU6 that allowed for minor revisions to the ROD. The minor revisions included allowing for a change in the sampling frequency for groundwater monitoring from semi-annual to annual and implementing a soil vapor extraction (SVE) treatability study for shallow soils at SD15. The soils reached ROD cleanup values in 2005. An Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) documents refinements to the OU6 ROD. It allows operation of the HVE system to be terminated and shift focus to the next phase of the remedy at SD15 in the ROD-Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA). It establishes 18 AAC 75.345 as a chemical-specific Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirement (ARAR) for LF02 and SD15 which results in a new cleanup level for 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane. This ESD uses the 2003 Air Force guidance to clarify how the Air Force intends to implement the LUCs at sites LF02, LF03, LF04, SD15, and WP14. This document was signed in June 2007. In October 2008, the HVE treatment system was removed at SD15.

Results of 2009 Five-Year Review for OU6: The remedies included natural attenuation of groundwater contaminants, high-vacuum extraction treatment of groundwater and soil at SD15 (completed in 2007), annual removal of landfill debris at the base of the bluff below LF04 North, free product recovery at WP14 and LF04 South, and LUCs. Cleanup levels have been met for soil at SD15 and appear to be met for groundwater at LF02. The quantity of debris collected below LF04 North has decreased over time, which may indicate a decrease in erosion. No recoverable free product has been detected in WP14 or LF04 South wells since 2005. Contaminant concentrations in groundwater meet cleanup levels in many wells and are decreasing in most other wells.

**DP98.** DP98 is located in the northwest portion of the base and consists of Buildings 18220 and 18224 (a former vehicle maintenance facility). This site was previously referred to as ST423 under SERA for investigation of the USTs that service Building 18224. During a SERA Phase VI investigation, TCE was detected at one well above State of Alaska groundwater cleanup levels. This resulted in the addition of this site to the ERP in 1999 for further investigation. An EE/CA was conducted in 2000. The results of this investigation proved the site had more contamination than first thought, and the EE/CA was transformed into an RI/FS in 2002 and interim LUCs were implemented. The RI/FS was completed in June 2003, and the ROD was signed in May 2004. In 2005, approximately 512 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated near the suspected source (a drain tile or outfall pipe), LUC language was revised and LUC boundaries were incorporated into the Base General Plan. An enhanced natural attenuation treatability study was completed in 2007. The final component of the selected remedy was implemented in October 2008 with the compilation and evaluation of 5 years of groundwater sampling results.

Results of 2009 Five-Year Review for DP98: The remedy includes excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil; treatability study, groundwater modeling, monitored natural attenuation for groundwater; and LUCs. The final component of the remedy was implemented in October 2008.

## **Fort Richardson**

At Fort Richardson, there are five OUs. Each OU contains and addresses a varying number of contaminated areas. Remedial investigations for each of the OUs have been completed and a number of remedial actions taken. Each OU is summarized below. More specific details can be found in the administrative record and the ROD for each OU.

**Operable Unit A.** The OUA/OUB ROD includes the following three sites within OUA: Roosevelt Road Transmitter Site Leachfield, Ruff Road Fire Training Area, and Building 986 Petroleum Oil and Lubricant (POL) Laboratory Dry Well.

The Army, EPA, and ADEC determined that the sites included within OUA did not represent unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, based on EPA criteria for residential use. Thus, no remedial action was necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment under CERCLA. A description of these sites and NFA decisions can be found in the OUA/OUB ROD.

However, since petroleum contamination levels in the soil exceeded ADEC cleanup standards, remedial actions were completed at the three sites in accordance with the non-UST POL Environmental Restoration Agreement (Two-Party Agreement) between the Army and ADEC.

The three sites have been listed in the ADEC contaminated sites database as cleanup complete with institutional controls, which upon review were determined to still be protective.

**Operable Unit B.** This area consists of two sub-areas that were used during the 1950s and 1960s for the disposal of chemical agent test kits. The Army performed an early action in Work Area B during the summers of 1993 and 1994. The action was done to remove potential chemical agent material (mustard and lewisite) and to remove the source of VOC contamination in the groundwater. Several chemical agent storage containers and associated material were also removed. In addition, 3,500 cubic yards of soil were removed, and cleanup of this soil was completed in the summer of 1998.

Heat enhanced soil vapor extraction, utilizing six-phase soil heating, was used at OUB to remove contaminants from soil. This system was very effective in removal of contaminants within the soil column. However, in 2004 an additional contaminated area was discovered outside of the treatment zone. Free-phase solvent (PCE and TCE) was detected in a well adjacent to this area. In 2005, an SVE system was installed at the site, but this system has not been very effective in removing contaminants due to the low permeability of soils. The Army continues to conduct groundwater monitoring and has been using a number of tools such as tracer studies, resistivity surveys, and development of geological and hydrological models to better understand the site. Additional wells were installed during 2007 to fill in gaps in the monitoring network. In general, concentrations of COCs remain above RAOs within much of the former Hot Spot area and downgradient plume; however, overall concentrations are decreasing and contamination does not extend off-site.

**Operable Unit C.** This area is the Eagle River Flats impact area. The contaminant of concern is white phosphorus in the sediments. Ingestion of white phosphorus by ducks is extremely toxic and generally results in convulsions and death. Early actions and treatability studies included dredging of channels to remove white phosphorus-contaminated sediment, draining of ponds, and placement of bentonite barriers to prevent ingestion of contaminants. These actions have resulted in a decrease of duck mortality from several thousands of ducks for each migratory season to several hundred ducks.

The RI/FS and a ROD were completed on Sept. 30, 1998. Pond pumping and waterfowl use and mortality studies were conducted from 1998 through 2007. Results from this work indicate that significant sediment drying and loss of white phosphorus is still occurring in drained ponds. The short-term RAO was achieved in 2003. The long-term RAO was met in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009. The EPA, ADEC, and Army agreed in 2009 that mortality monitoring would continue through 2012. This would provide sufficient mortality data to statistically determine whether the long-term RAO has indeed been achieved.

**Operable Unit D.** The OUD ROD was finalized in September 2000 and incorporated the 12 known remaining potential source areas that were not addressed in the RODs for OUA/OUB and OUC. The principle concern in these areas was groundwater contamination with organics such as benzene, PCE, and carbon tetrachloride.

An NFA decision under CERCLA was made in the OUD ROD for the following seven of the source areas: Building 45-590 Auto Hobby Shop, Building 726 Laundry Facility, Circle Road Drum Site, Dust Palliative Locations (four separate areas), Grease Pits, Landfill Fire Training Area, and Storm Water Outfall to Ship Creek. It was also determined that two areas, Building 796 Battery Shop and Building 955 Former Sludge Bin (DDT contaminated soils), required further sampling before a decision could be made for NFA. These sites were transferred to the newly created OUE.

Two other source areas included in the OUD ROD qualified to be addressed under the State-Fort Richardson Environmental Restoration Agreement because the only COCs were petroleum compounds. These source areas (Building 700/718, and Building 704) have subsequently been listed as cleanup complete in the ADEC contaminated sites database.

While the OUD ROD was being developed, new information was discovered about the potential source of PCB contamination at the Building 35-752 High-Frequency Transmitter Site, and it was determined that additional investigation was necessary. Rather than delay completion of the OUD ROD, this site was transferred to OUE for investigation and further evaluation.

**Operable Unit E.** The OUE ROD, signed in September 2005, was established to address a source area, referred to as the Armored Vehicle Maintenance Area (AVMA), discovered during investigation of another potential source area (Building 45-590 Auto Hobby Shop) in OUD. Operable Unit E also addresses three areas (Building 35-752 High-Frequency Transmitter Site, Building 796 Battery Shop and Building 955 Former Sludge Bin) transferred from OUD because further investigation was required.

The AMVA is the only OUE site determined to require further action under CERCLA. This determination was based on the RI, risk assessments, and evaluation in the FS. No COCs were identified in the ROD for soils at this site, and PCE was the only COC established for groundwater. Federal and State of Alaska drinking water MCLs were adopted as the groundwater cleanup goals. The selected remedy for PCE contaminated groundwater at the AMVA is land use controls, natural attenuation, and monitoring. Annual groundwater monitoring has been conducted since 2006.

The Building 35-752 High-Frequency Transmitter Site was investigated. Based on soil and groundwater sampling results and the risk assessment, this site was recommended for NFA under

CERCLA in the OUE ROD. To ensure the protectiveness of the NFA decision, groundwater is sampled every five years in the year preceding the CERCLA Five-Year Review Report.

The OUD ROD determined that two potential source areas, the Building 796 Battery Shop and Building 955 Former Sludge Bin (DDT contaminated soils), required further sampling before a decision could be made for NFA. These sites were re-evaluated as part of the OUE ROD. Results for additional sampling for chemicals of concern at these sites were below MCLs or EPA risk-based criteria. Therefore these two sites were recommended for NFA under CERCLA in the OUE ROD.

## APPENDIX C

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

#### Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Program

Recognizing the importance of community involvement and the need for citizens living near sites on the NPL to be well informed, Congress included provisions in the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 to establish a Technical Assistance Grant program. The TAG program is intended to foster informed public involvement in decisions related to site-specific cleanup strategies under CERCLA. The TAG program provides funds for qualified citizen groups to hire independent technical advisors to help them understand and comment on technical factors in cleanup decisions that affect them. In addition to regulatory and legal requirements, decisions concerning cleanup initiatives at NPL sites must take into account a range of technical considerations. These might include the following:

- analytical profiles of site conditions
- nature of the waste involved
- kinds of technology available for performing the necessary cleanup actions.

The following are the basic provisions of the TAG program; as set forth in Section 117(e) of CERCLA; the provisions are also an interim final rule in 53 Federal Register 9736:

- Grants of up to \$50,000 are available to community groups for hiring technical advisors to help citizens understand and interpret site-related technical information.
- The group must cover 20 percent of the total cost of the project to be supported by TAG funding.
- The group must budget the expenditure of grant funds to cover the entire cleanup period, which averages six years.
- If the group is not incorporated and it is awarded a TAG, it must then become incorporated.
- There may be only one TAG award per NPL site, but the grant may be renewed.

A free TAG application package is available that includes all the necessary application and certification forms, as well as a copy of The Superfund Technical Assistance Grant Handbook. Sample forms with detailed instructions to assist in preparing a TAG application are included in the manual.

For further information about the application process or any aspect of the TAG program, contact:

Region 10 TAG Coordinator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101

Phone: 206-553-1272, Fax: (206) 553-6984

or call the Superfund toll-free hotline: 1-800-424-9346.

### **Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP)**

DOD established the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) program to assist community members of RABs and TRCs in participating more fully in the cleanup process affecting DOD installations and FUDS. TAPP allows community members to obtain objective, independent scientific and engineering support concerning the restoration process through the issuance of government purchase orders to small business.

Community members of RABs and TRCs are eligible to apply for technical assistance under the TAPP program. A minimum of three community members must sit on the RAB or TRC to qualify. A majority of the members in good standing must agree on the type of assistance that would most enhance their ability to participate effectively in the restoration program.

TAPP procurements are intended to increase the ability of RAB or TRC community members to participate more effectively in the restoration program by enhancing their understanding of technical details. Typical projects might include a review of restoration documents, review of proposed remedial technologies, interpreting health and environmental effects, participating in relative risk evaluations and certain types of technical training.

In keeping with the requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2705(e), the RAB or TRC must be able to demonstrate that the technical expertise necessary for the proposed TAPP project is not available through the federal, state, or local agencies responsible for overseeing environmental restoration at the installation. Or, they must show that the selection of an independent provider will contribute to environmental restoration activities and the community acceptance of such activities. In addition, DOD encourages the RAB or TRC to seek other available sources of assistance prior to submitting a request for TAPP in order to preserve limited resources. These sources include DOD's installation restoration contractor, or other DOD contractors or personnel, EPA or state regulatory personnel, volunteer services from local universities or other experts, or assistance from state and local health and environmental organizations.

Certain projects do not qualify for funding under the TAPP program. Examples include the generation of new primary data such as well drilling and sampling, litigation or underwriting legal actions, reopening final DOD decisions, political activity or lobbying, epidemiological or health studies and community outreach efforts.

A community may obtain up to \$25,000 per year or one percent of the total cost of completing environmental restoration at the installation, whichever is less. There is a limit of \$100,000 per installation.

The application process begins when the community members of the RAB or TRC reach an agreement on a TAPP project. The DOD RAB co-chair will be available to assist the community members should the need arise.

The steps for requesting TAPP funds are:

1. Complete the application (DD Form 2749). Specify the type of assistance required, identify potential provider(s) and certify that alternative sources do not exist. The application will not be considered complete until the following data elements have been entered into the form:
  - (a) Installation.
  - (b) Source of TAPP request (names of RAB or TRC).
  - (c) Certification of majority request.
  - (d) RAB/TRC contact point for TAPP project.
  - (e) Project title.
  - (f) Project type (for example, data interpretation, training, etc.).
  - (g) Project purpose and description (descriptions, time and locations of products or services desired).
  - (h) Statement of eligibility of project.
  - (i) Proposed provider, if known.
  - (j) Specific qualifications or criteria for provider.
2. Submit the application to the RAB or TRC military co-chair, who will forward it to the installation commander for review and approval. The application will then be sent to the contracting office to initiate a purchase order.
3. Respond to contracting office inquiries should they identify an assistance provider different from the one suggested by the community. Evaluate the proposed provider.

After the purchase order has been executed and the assistance is provided, the RAB or TRC members must submit a report to the installation at project completion. This report must indicate the amount of TAPP funds obligated by fiscal year and an evaluation for each project.

Each technical assistance provider shall submit progress reports, financial status reports, materials prepared for the RAB/TRC, and a final report to the DOD installation for the TAPP project as specified by the specific purchase order agreement. The final report shall document TAPP project activities over the entire period of support and shall describe the achievements with respect to stated TAPP project purposes and objectives.

Additional information and application forms are available from the Elmendorf Air Force Base environmental community relations coordinator, the Department of the Air Force or directly from the DOD, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security, 3400 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-3400.

## **APPENDIX D**

### **PUBLIC MEETING LOCATIONS**

#### **General**

##### **Alaska Native Heritage Center, Inc.**

Contact: Melissa Saunders

(907) 330-8000

Capacity: Up to 700. Available after 5 p.m. from October to April, and after 6:30 p.m. from May to September.

[www.alaskanative.net](http://www.alaskanative.net)

##### **Alaska Pacific University**

Contact: James Jordan

(907) 564-8305

Capacity: Auditorium seats 249. Various size meeting rooms also available.

[www.alaskapacific.edu](http://www.alaskapacific.edu)

##### **Anchorage Municipal Library System**

Contact: Jason Kinikin

(907) 343-2906

Capacity: 25 to 245

Theater, public conference room, assembly chambers and Ann Stevens room available.

[www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org)

#### **Schools**

##### **Anchorage School District**

Contact: Sharon Schoonmaker

(907) 742-4142

##### **University of Alaska Anchorage**

Housing, Dining and Conference Services

Contact: Tina Veldkamp

(907) 751-7273

Three conference rooms available year round for public use. Lecture halls, classrooms, theaters and a 900-seat auditorium on campus are also available.

#### **Hotels**

##### **Anchorage Hilton Hotel**

500 West 3rd Avenue

Anchorage, AK 99501

(907) 272-7411  
Capacity: 10 to 1000

**Holiday Inn**

239 W. 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 279-8674  
Capacity: 24 to 200  
8 rooms

**Hotel Captain Cook**

4th Avenue & K Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 276-6000  
Capacity: 10 to 1,250

**Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel**

239 West 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 222-8701  
Capacity: 30-100

**Sheraton Anchorage**

401 East 6th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 276-8700  
Capacity: 10 to 1,200

**Westmark Anchorage Hotel**

720 W. 5th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 276-7676  
Capacity: 12 to 125

**For additional listings, contact the Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau  
(907) 276-4118**

Web site: <http://www.alaska.net/~acvb>